REMARKS

Claims 1-13, 16-18, 21 and 59-61 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-4, 10-11, 16 and 21 are amended, claims 14-15, 19-20 and 22-23 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 59-61 are added.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3-4, 6 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) by U.S. Patent 6,711,004 to Yen et al. (hereafter Yen). The Office Action also rejects claims 1, 7, 8 and 10-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yen in view of U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0188144 to Du et al. (hereafter Du). The rejections are respectfully traversed with respect to the pending claims.

Independent claim 1 recites a portable computer unit having a configuration that allows a system mode to be switched between a notebook computer mode and a tablet computer mode, and a rotation detection switch to provide a rotation detection signal having either a first state or a second state. Independent claim 1 also recites a controller, responsive to a system power supply of the portable computer being turned on to recognize a notebook computer mode when the rotation detection signal is in a first state and to recognize a tablet computer mode when the rotation detection signal is in a second state. Independent claim 1 also recites the controller operates an application program for the tablet computer mode or the notebook computer mode according to the recognition, and wherein the controller provides inactivation of a keyboard when the controller recognizes the tablet computer mode.

The applied references do not teach or suggest at least these features of independent claim 1. More specifically, Yen does not teach or suggest a rotation detection switch to provide a

rotation detection signal having either a first state or a second state. Rather, Yen very specifically

discloses a control switch 31 (FIG. 2) to enable a normal mode and switch 41 (FIG. 4) to enable

a tablet mode. Switches 31 and 41 are two separate switches provided at two separate areas. See,

for example, col. 6, lines 27-43. In contrast, independent claim 1 specifically recites a rotation

switch to provide a rotation detection signal having either a first state or a second state, and a

controller to recognize a notebook computer mode when the rotation detection signal is in a

first state and to recognize a tablet computer mode when the rotation detection signal is in a

second state. Yen does not recognize two modes based on a state of one signal (from one

switch). Rather, as is clearly set forth in col. 6, lines 27-43, Yen uses two separate switches 31, 41

to determine whether a normal mode or a tablet mode is utilized. Accordingly, Yen does not

teach or suggest the very specific features of independent claim 1. Further, there is no

suggestion to modify Yen's control switches 31 and 41 so as to find the claimed rotation

detection switch in combination with the claimed controller.

Furthermore, independent claim 1 recites that the controller provides inactivation of a

keyboard when the controller recognizes the tablet computer mode. Yen does not teach or

suggest these features. Yen does not suggest inactivation of a keyboard.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Yen does not teach or suggest all the features of

independent claim 1. Du does not teach or suggest the features of independent claim 1 missing

from Yen. Thus, independent claim 1 defines patentable subject matter.

Independent claim 10 recites detection means for detecting the rotation state of the display module when a system power supply provided in the portable computer is turned on, the detection means including a rotation detection switch to provide a rotation detection signal having either a first state or a second state. Independent claim 10 also recites control means for selectively booting an operating system (OS) for a tablet computer when the control means recognizes a tablet computer mode by the rotation detection signal being in the first state and for selectively booting an OS for a notebook computer when the control means recognizes a notebook computer mode by the rotation detection signal being in the second state.

For at least similar reasons as set forth above, the applied references do not teach or suggest at least these features of independent claim 10. Yen does not teach or suggest the control means recognizes a tablet computer mode by the rotation detection signal being in the first state and the control means recognizes a notebook computer mode by the rotation detection signal being in the second state. Thus, independent claim 10 defines patentable subject matter.

Independent claim 16 recites detecting a state of a rotation detection signal when a system power supply provided in the portable computer is turned on, and selectively booting an initialization application program for a tablet computer when the portable computer is recognized to be in a tablet computer mode based on the rotation detection signal being detected to be in a first state, and selectively booting an initialization application program for a

11

notebook computer when the portable computer is recognized to be in a notebook computer mode based on the rotation detection signal being detected to be in a second state.

For at least similar reasons as set forth above, the applied references do not teach or suggest at least these features of independent claim 16. Yen does not teach or suggest the portable computer is recognized to be in a tablet computer mode based on the rotation detection signal being detected to be in a first state, and the portable computer is recognized to be in a notebook computer mode based on the rotation detection signal being detected to be in a second state. Thus, independent claim 16 defines patentable subject matter.

Independent claim 21 recites the portable computer to: detect the rotation state of the display module when a system power supply provided in the portable computer is enabled, selectively boot an operating system (OS) for a tablet computer when the portable computer is determined to be in a specific mode based on the rotation detection signal being detected to be in a first state, and selectively boot an initialization program for a notebook computer when the portable computer is determined to be in a specific mode based on the rotation detection signal being detected to be in a second state.

For at least similar reasons as set forth above, the applied references do not teach or suggest at least these features of independent claim 21. Yen does not teach or suggest the portable computer is determined to be in a specific mode based on the rotation detection signal being detected to be in a first state, and the portable computer is determined to be in a specific

12

mode based on the rotation detection signal being detected to be in a second state. Thus, independent claim 21 defines patentable subject matter.

Accordingly, each of independent claims 1, 10, 16 and 21 defines patentable subject matter. Each of the dependent claims depends from one of the independent claims and therefore defines patentable subject matter at least for this reason. In addition, the dependent claims recite features that further and independently distinguish over the applied references.

For example, dependent claim 61 recites providing a keyboard in an inactivation state when the rotation detection signal is detected to be in the first state. See also dependent claims 59 and 60. Yen and Du do not teach or suggest these features since Yen and Du do not suggest providing a keyboard in an inactivation state. Thus, dependent claims 59-61 define patentable subject matter at least for this additional reason.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-13, 16-18, 21 and 59-61 are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this,
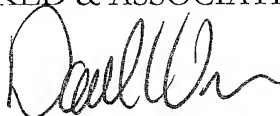
concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and

please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
KED & ASSOCIATES, LLP

David C. Oren
Registration No. 38,694

P.O. Box 221200
Chantilly, Virginia 20153-1200
(703) 766-3777 DCO/kah
Date: November 20, 2007
Please direct all correspondence to Customer Number 34610